

A GANG of youths who stoned a coach full of Bedford Town supporters after Wycombe Wanderers' 2-1 F.A. Cup win at Loakes Park on Monday night have been condemned by the Blues' chairman, Mr. Reg Williams.

Mr. Williams promised that any offenders who were convicted would be banned by the club.

The incident happened in Suffolk Road, near the ground, when the coach was moving through heavy traffic. About 20 teenagers ran alongside and hurled stones through the windows.

One passenger was injured as three panoramic windows were smashed and passengers showered with broken glass, some of them narrowly escaping injury.

Mr. Michael Spavins, of The Boundary, Putnoe, Bedfordshire, was hit on the head by a stone and was treated at Wycombe Hospital for cuts over an eye and on his neck.

'Appalled'

About £500 worth of damage was done to the coach which had to be replaced by another one from Bedford.

Mr. Williams said he knew nothing of the incident until the following day.

"I would be appalled if I thought that the hooligans who caused this disturbance were associated with Wycombe Wanderers Football Club. We disassociate ourselves with anything of this nature and if the offenders are caught I will make sure they are banned from the club," he said.

"This sort of trouble must be stamped out and the club will do anything in its power to bring these people to order."

During the match — an F.A. Cup first round second replay — there were minor scuffles behind one goal but the four policemen on duty inside the ground soon dealt with the trouble.

The police are searching for the youths and have appealed for information from anyone who saw the stone-throwing incident.